

Message Text

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12

ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-20 FDRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 EA-06 IO-10 /096 W

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O 010334Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1093

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 505

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMG

SUBJECT: RESETTLEMENT OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REF: STATE 097854

1. I MADE DEMARCHE ON REFUGEES TO MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ZAWAWI APRIL 30. HE LISTENED INTENTLY, SAID WOULD DISCUSS MATTER "WITH SULTAN AND GOVERNMENT" ON URGENT BASIS AND PROVIDE ME SOME REACTION SOON AS POSSIBLE. GAVE NO HINT WHAT RESPONSE MIGHT BE.

2. I NOTED THAT WE HAD LEARNED THIS WEEK FROM MINISTRY OFFICIAL (CONFIRMED IN ARABIC PRESS) THAT OMAN HAS RECENTLY DECIDED TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH BELEAGUERED SOUTH VIETNAM. HE NODDED ADDING THAT DECISION MADE "BEFORE THIS WEEK'S EVENTS." I SUGGESTED THAT AN OMANGOV DECISION TO PROVIDE PERMANENT HAVEN FOR VIETNAM REFUGEES WOULD TO ME SEEM AN EXCELLENT CONCRETE MEANS OF SHOWING WHERE OMAN'S SYMPATHIES LIE IN VIETNAM SITUATION, AS WELL AS COMMENDABLE HUMANITARIAN ACTION.

3. COMMENT: PRESUMABLY OMANGOV'S RECOGNITION OF SOUTH VIETNAM WAS SYMBOLIC ACT TO UNDERScore ITS ANTI-COMMUNIST STANCE.

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UNDERSECRETARY OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE, IN DISCUSSING WITH

EMBOFF THIS SEEMINGLY QUIXOTIC INITIATIVE, ENERGETICALLY (AND, CONSIDERING THE INDIVIDUAL, ATYPICALLY) EXPRESSED VIEW THAT USG AND FREE WORLD MAKING A GRAVE ERROR IN "ABANDONING" FRIENDS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. DEEPER CONCERN HERE IS WHETHER OMANIS CAN COUNT ON NECESSARY SUPPORT IN CONFRONTING COMMUNIST-SUPPORTED SUBVERSION IN DHOFAR.

4. SHOULD AUDIENCE I REQUESTED WEEK AGO WITH SULTAN TO DISCUSS UNRELATED MATTERS BE GRANTED IN NEXT FEW DAYS, I WILL TAKE THIS SUBJECT UP WITH HIM PERSONALLY.
WOLLE

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